FREE – TAKE ONE

The Romulus News

SEPTEMBER 5, 2003 – SEPTEMBER 18, 2003 "the little paper" VOLUME 17 NUMBER 4

Timely Tidbits ...

Lakeside Home Tour

The Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society will present a tour of six beautiful homes on Belleville Lake on Sunday, September 14, from 1 to 6 p.m. Advance tickets ($10 each) are available at the Museum, Antiques on Main, Flowers by Katherine Rose, the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Van Buren Township Municipal Center, or by calling 734-697-1944. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour for $12 each.

Also scheduled for September 14 is a "Home Tour salad luncheon," to be held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets, $6.50 each, are also available at the Museum.

Choir Fund-raiser

For the next three weeks, Romulus residents will be receiving phone calls between the hours of 3 and 9 p.m., asking for their support of a fund-raiser to benefit the Romulus Community Schools choir program. A choice of quality pizzas, gourmet coffee samplers, Amish-style fudge, chunky chocolate chip and sugar cookie dough, tool sets, bumblebee and dragonfly candle-holders, extra-life light bulbs, first-aid kits, fire extinguishers, and trash bags will be offered at very reasonable prices, then delivered to your door at no extra charge (with no gratuity required, either).

Your order – and your support of our very talented students – will be greatly appreciated.

RTP3 Meetings Set

The Romulus Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership has announced its meeting schedule for the remainder of the year:

- Wednesday, September 24
- Wednesday, October 22
- Wednesday, November 19
- Wednesday, December 17

All meetings will be held in Room 507 at Romulus High School, located at 9650 South Wayne Road, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public. ❑

Pumpkin Festival Kicks Off Autumn Season

The 7th Annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival – to be held in the Goddard Road area west of Hunt Street in downtown Romulus – will run from September 19–21.

On Friday, the festival will kick off with the fifth annual "Parade of Lights" – a shimmering spectacle that will depart from the City Hall parking lot (corner of Wayne and Goddard roads) at 8 p.m., then wind through the downtown area. Last year's parade was an enormous success enjoyed by thousands of onlookers, and this year's event promises to be bigger and *brighter* that ever!

The remainder of the weekend will feature entertainment, games, contests, hayrides, craft exhibits, and other street-fair attractions – and, of course, pumpkins. You won't want to miss a minute of fabulous, family-oriented fun!

The following is a tentative schedule of events for the Romulus Pumpkin Festival. For further details, including contest rules, a copy of the City's "special events" ordinance, and fascinating historical information, pick up a festival booklet at Romulus City Hall or the Recreation/Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins in downtown Romulus.

Bingo Benefits New Animal Shelter

Among the new events at this year's Pumpkin Festival will be a 50/50 Bingo game to raise money toward the construction of a new Romulus Animal Shelter. The Bingo Benefit will be held at the old DPW building (located at 36415 Bibbins next to the Recreation/Senior Center in the downtown area) on Friday from 3 to 7 p.m., Saturday from 2 to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m.

City Councilman Bill Wadsworth is asking local animal lovers to volunteer their help for the event. Contact him at 734-941-0616.

"American Idol" Contest

Romulus residents only are invited to compete for a cash prize in another new Festival event, "American Idol."

Auditions will be held at the Recreation Center on Saturday, September 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. Each contestant, who will be rated by a panel of judges, will have 3 minutes to perform, and must provide his/her own music and props.

Three finalists will be selected in each of the following categories: adults (ages 18 and up), teens (ages 14 to 17), and juniors (ages 10 to 13).

All finalists will perform at the Pumpkin Festival on Saturday between 5 and 6 p.m.

Members of the 2002 Pumpkin Festival Committee (most of whom are on this year's committee, as well) included: (from left) front – Laurie Berlinn (holding Arlo Simmerman), Maria Lambert (holding Zoe Simmerman), Julie Albert, Kathy Lindroth, Rosalie Berlinn, and Joanne Whaley; middle – Denise Simmerman, Julie Allison, Lynn Conway, Jean Pressler, and Helen Carroll; back – Herb Buckley, Lt. John Leacher, Rick Perry, Bob Pressler, Linda Norman, Harry Schleffler, and Bob Youtsey. (For a complete list of committee members, see the accompanying story.) *Photo courtesy of the City of Romulus.*

Romulus Progressive Hall Hosts Chicken Dinner Fund-raiser

A Chicken Dinner fund-raiser to be held on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. will benefit Romulus Progressive Hall (located on Ozga at Five Points). Cost is $8.50 per person. For advance tickets, call 734-941-3044 or 734-718-3137.

Historical Highlights

The Romulus Historical Commission and the Romulus Historical Society will co-sponsor the following events during the Pumpkin Festival:

- "Civil War Living History" featuring Bledsoe's Battery (Sat., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- Museum exhibition: Romulus's first ballot box (Sat., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- Early American craft demonstration (Sat. and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- tours of historic Samuel Kingsley house (Sat. and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- Michigan Greyhound Connection (Sat. and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- music featuring Shirley Franklin & Delta Drive (Sat., 1 to 5 p.m.)
- dulcimer/guitar music performed by Golden Griffon Stringtet (Sun., 12 to 3 p.m.)
- Bledsoe's Battery with cannon – no life ammunition (Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- Museum exhibition: ladies' purse collection (Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)

"Parade of Lights" Contest

(Note: All entries must be lighted.) Prizes will be awarded to winners in the "non-motorized," "non-commercial," and "commercial" categories. Lineup will begin Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot. Call the Romulus Rotary Club at 734-941-5245 or visit the Club's Website at www.romulusrotary.org.

Other Contests

All contest entries must be brought to the Recreation Center (located at 36515 Bibbins) by 4 p.m. Friday. Winners will be announced at the Hospitality Tent on Saturday at 12 p.m. For more information, call 734-942-6852.

- Canning (entries must be homemade by the participant)
- Pie Baking (four categories – pumpkin, sweet potato, peach, and apple)
- Pumpkin Growing (one category – largest)
- Sunflower Growing (single-blossom only; two categories – largest face and tallest)

Games/Competitions (Olive and Goddard)

- Pumpkin Rolling (Sat., 1 p.m.)
- Hay Rolling (Sat., 2 p.m.)
- Sack Races (Sat., 3 p.m.)
- Shoe Races (Sat., 4 p.m.)

continued on page 9

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity.

Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so. (Writers need not be afraid to include their name when asking for anonymity, since all such names are kept in the strictest confidence, regardless of whether or not the letter is published.)

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

For more information, please call 734-941-1907.

Rotary Sponsors Parade

To the Editor:

In spite of Romulus claiming to be the "gateway to the world," some would think that it isn't exactly an epicenter of culture or entertainment. Yet, for several years now, Romulus has been the site of the most original, one-of-a-kind event in the entire Downriver community – the Parade of Lights.

This year's glistening spectacle of vehicles, floats, and go-karts is supported and hosted by the Romulus Rotary Club. This group of community business leaders has always participated in the annual Pumpkin Festival and is now increasing their role by sponsoring the Parade of Lights, as well. Seeking to strengthen the community through service projects, scholarships, and education, the Romulus Rotary Club desires to draw the attention of families in neighboring communities to this uniquely brilliant experience.

To find out more about the Romulus Parade of Lights or the Romulus Rotary Club, visit www.romulusrotary.org.

Rick Perry, PR director
Nathan Kirkpatrick, PR consultant
Romulus Rotary Club

Travel Team Places 2nd

To the Editor:

The Future Youth Travel Basketball Team traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, the weekend of July 18–20 to play in the Best of the Best Basketball Tournament's 15-and-under age bracket. The team placed second in the tournament and qualified for the national competition, to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

As coach of the team, I'd just like to say that I'm really proud of these guys. They are the best team that I've ever coached. They surprised me with how well they played, and their attitudes and sportsmanship were good. Most important, they played together as a team.

Congratulations to the eight players on this remarkable team – Brett Bell, Trey Bishop, Selwyn Bodden, Justin Carter (co-MVP), Isaiah Dean, Patrick Frison (co-MVP), Dawan Jackson, and Kevin Smith – and special thanks to my fellow coach, Fred Bishop.

"Coach" Green

Basham Says "Thanks"

To the Editor:

Thanks to the Michigan State Police, Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and local police departments for doing an outstanding job of law enforcement and traffic control during the recent blackout.

The police and fire departments, as well as local elected officials, were exceptional in the emergency circumstances faced over a period of several days. Their dedication to maintaining order and helping the most vulnerable and needy in the community was inspiring.

Our local agencies responded well to this emergency. Their actions instill confidence that the highest level of public safety will be maintained in any emergency situation.

I applaud these men and women on a job well done.

Raymond E. Basham
State Senator, 8th District ❑

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We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although every attempt will be made to do so.

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The Romulus News will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to Romulus residents on a "space available" basis.

While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, *The Romulus News* is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

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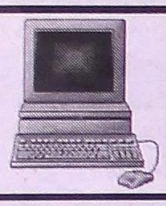

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Historic Artifact Comes Home

Romulus Historical Society officers (from left) Gloria Chandler, Cathy Morse, Gerald Wendland, Genevieve Dugan, and Kenneth Krueger gather around what is believed to be the first ballot box ever used in Romulus. The box, graciously returned by the Plymouth Historical Museum not long ago, will be on display in the Romulus Historical Museum during the annual Pumpkin Festival.

by Ken Krueger, corresponding secretary, Romulus Historical Society

An important and unique piece of local history has returned to Romulus after nearly 140 years. A ballot box, believed to be the first ever used in Romulus, was recently acquired from the Plymouth Historical Museum in Plymouth, Michigan.

After discovering the existence of the box, the Romulus Historical Society wrote a letter to Plymouth, requesting its return. Beth Stewart, director of the Plymouth Museum, replied that it was with happy reluctance that they would return this unusual piece of political memorabilia to its rightful place, adding that they have nothing else like it in their collection. The box had been on display in the Plymouth Village Hall, which is part of a re-creation of historic Plymouth, located on the lower level of their museum. Stewart has no idea who donated it to their collection.

The box, rectangular in shape, is painted black, and has a small, square hole in the top for the insertion of ballots. The smallness of its size caused one person to remark, "They didn't have much to vote on way back then."

A faded note, pasted on the front of the ballot box, authenticates it as the first used in Romulus. The note is signed by John Simpson, Jr., who was the first town clerk. (Records indicate that he was elected to this position in 1835 and 1836. Romulus became a township in 1835.)

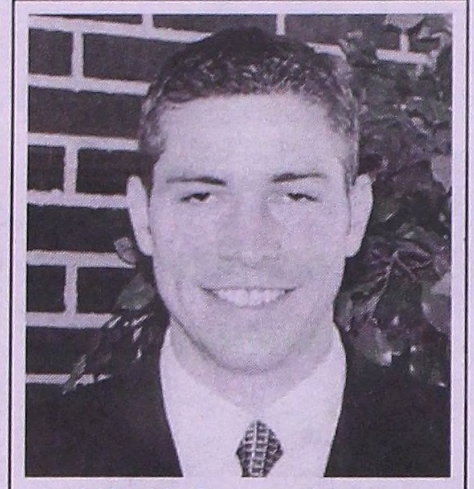
The box will be on permanent display at the Romulus Historical Museum, located on Hunt Street near the post office, beginning Pumpkin Festival weekend (September 20–21).

The Romulus Historical Society would like to thank the Plymouth Historical Museum, especially Beth Stewart and Donna Keel, for allowing this treasure to be brought back to Romulus. ❑

Looking Forward to Soccer Success

Romulus High School soccer coaches Stefani Carpenter (third from left) and Angela Siggia (third from right) – pictured here with team leaders (from left) Phillip Martin, Jerermy Trevorrow, Gentjan Xhikola, and Brad Garland – are looking forward to their first match against Taylor Truman on Wednesday, September 10.

District Hires 4 New Teachers



Joel Hockin is one of four new teachers hired by the Romulus Community Schools.

The Romulus Community Schools is happy to welcome four new teachers to the district. Among them is Joel Hockin, who will be teaching seventh-grade science classes at the Middle School.

Hockin is a graduate of Carman-Ainsworth High School, where he was an honor student and a member of the school's Big 9 championship soccer team. He also coached Little League soccer and performed as a percussionist with several local rock bands.

At the University of Michigan–Flint, Hockin continued his honors-level academic work while, at the same time, starting a soccer club that played in a central Michigan league.

An avid ski enthusiast, he particularly enjoys the slopes of Colorado and Vermont.

Hockin's employment resume includes an assignment as the assistant director of community education with the Flushing Public Schools.

Other new teachers include:

- Keith Brothers (graduate of Olivette; physical-education teacher, Romulus Community High School/Romulus Alternative Middle School),
- Adrienne Carnell (graduate of the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor; language-arts teacher, Romulus Middle School), and
- Darrlyn Harrison (graduate of Western Michigan University; mathematics teacher, Romulus Community High School). ❑

New Student Teacher at RHS

Welcome to Kelly Parker, a Western Michigan University student who will be completing her student teaching requirement at Romulus High School this fall, working with language-arts teacher Keisa Sterling.

Parker is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, where she was active with the school's award-winning pom-pom squad as well as student government, the National Honor Society, and the Salem chapter of SADD. Her hobbies include travel – both domestic and international – and dance.

At WMU, Parker is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Kappa Delta Pi, and the Golden Key Honor Society, an elite group for students in the top 15% of their class. She also takes part in many fund-raising drives for local charities.

New student teacher Kelly Parker (right) will be working with Keisa Sterling at RHS this fall.

She did her pre-student teaching at Paw Paw Middle School. ❑

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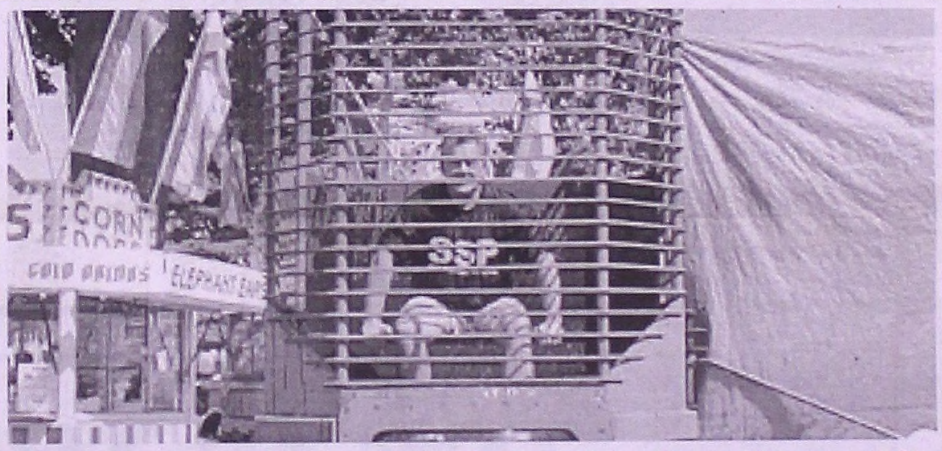
Weekend in Romulus

Among those out to enjoy Birch Run's Family Fun Day on August 30 were (from left) Board of Directors vice-president Jim Montgomery, president Nikita Frederick, secretary Nettie Dye, second vice-president Nathaniel Darkins, and treasurer Yemi Latona.

Also out to join in the fun at Birch Run were Romulus firefighters "Bud" McDiarmid (left) and Dawn Kelly (second from right), who let neighborhood youngsters like Mark Trent (second from left) and Marcus Trent try on some of their gear.

(From left) Council Chairman Randy Gear, Councilman Bill Wadsworth, Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Recreation director Herb Buckley, Rev. Art Willis, Recreation chairman Jerry Kittle, and AAU director Craig Lewis took part in the August 30 ribbon-cutting for the newly renovated Fernandez Park.



Mayor Alan R. Lambert's good-natured participation in the annual St. Aloysius Festival's dunk tank event on August 30 raised more than $100 for St. Aloysius School. Altogether, the dunk tank – sponsored by the St. Aloysius Youth Group – garnered an impressive $750.

Steven Doktor, Jr., of the Romulus Rotary-sponsored "Orioles" proudly displayed the plaque he received for his participation in Romulus Little League baseball at the program's annual end-of-season picnic, held at Senior Citizens Park on August 30.

Also among the attendees were the Blue Sky-sponsored "Blue Jays," including (from left) front – Courtney Blakeney, Jessica Morgan, and Ashley Linne; middle – Britnee Bishop, Leslie Johnson, Kristin Lawson, and Candace Poet; back – Jim Poet, Wayne Lawson, and Diane Poet.

School District Recognizes Employees for Career Milestones

Joel R. Carr, superintendent of the Romulus Community Schools, and Betty Lenossi, president of the Board of Education, welcomed returning employees at the district's annual "Years of Service" program, held in the Romulus High School auditorium.

Lenossi complimented the staff for their excellent job of preparing the buildings for the opening of another school year, and introduced fellow Board members Celeste Roscoe, Ken Mientkiewicz, and Niema White.

Carr addressed the audience about major improvements that the district was able to implement over the summer using funds from the bond issue approved by voters in 1999.

"The favorable bid prices we have received over the past four years have enabled us to provide many additional enhancements to the district," Carr explained. "This summer, we have made improvements in school carpeting and sidewalks, and initiated construction of our new state-of-the-art synthetic football field turf."

Director of human resources Edward Clark, assisted by executive secretaries Carole Bales and Louise Briody, then presented awards to a number of employees, recognizing them for having achieved significant milestones in their career with the district.

Secretary Ellen Bragg concluded the program with a rousingly patriotic vocal medley of "America the Beautiful" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

Congratulations to the following district employees on reaching important career milestones.

10-year Honorees
- Susan Brewington
- Betty Cantrell
- Virginia Dryer
- Linda Gilliland
- Ruth Hopson
- Dorothy McKinnie
- Rosemary Szymofelnik
- Charles Usztics
- Lee Varga

15-year Honorees
- Donald Matheny
- Kim Wells
- Sharon Zilka

20-year Honorees
- Alicia Del Toro-Watson
- Loretta Good
- Gloria Harvey
- Evelyn Koerber
- Karen Kusibab
- Karen McFall
- Linda Redman
- James Sparagowski
- Carol White

25-year Honorees
- Kathleen Abdo
- Gary Banas
- William Baum
- Michael Blackburn
- Henry James
- Christine Julvezan
- James Orme
- Carol Pastrick
- Kathleen Robinson
- Irene Sandusky
- Suzanne Snyder
- Connie Watkins
- Frank Zarzycki

30-year Honorees
- Louise Briody
- Douglas Hoffman
- Dan Hurst
- Barbara Jaszcz
- Melvin Kimbrough
- Cathy Kudra
- Howard Miller
- Joseph Murphy
- Jeffrey Royal
- Florence Satterlee
- Dennis Stoh

35-year Honorees
- Joyce Bujak
- Gail Modrzynski ❑

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

Advertisement for Bid: Landscape Project

The Romulus Community Schools is seeking proposals to landscape an area around Romulus High School, located at 9650 South Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan. Sealed bids must be received by the Romulus Community Schools, 36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174, attention William A. Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, by 2:00 p.m. local time on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at which time and place bids will be publicly opened.

Drawings can be picked up at Landscape Architects and Planners, Inc., Oakland Center, 809 Center Street, Suite One, Lansing, Michigan 48906-5257.

A pre-bid meeting will be held on site on September 18, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. At this time, the contractors should address any questions they may have with the Owner and Architect.

The Romulus Community Schools reserves the right to waive any information, reject any or all bids, or accept any bid in whole or in part that, in their opinion, will best serve their interests.

William A. Routhier, Director
Business and Operations

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Employee Milestones

Romulus Community Schools employees recognized for reaching their 15-year service milestone were (from left) Kim Wells, Don Matheny, and Sharon Zilka.

Ed Clark (second from right), director of human resources, Board president Betty Lenossi (left), and trustee Ken Mientkiewicz (right) congratulated 35-year honorees Gail Modrzynski (second from left) and Joyce Bujak.

Among the employees honored for 30 years of service with the district were (from left) Jeffrey Royal, Dennis Stoh, Howard Miller, Mel Kimbrough, Louise Briody, Doug Hoffman, Florence Satterlee, Dan Hurst, Cathy Kudra, and Barb Jaszcz.

The 25-year honorees included (from left) Connie Watkins, Gary Banas, Irene Sandusky, Kathy Abdo, Suzanne Snyder, Henry James, Carol Pastrick, Michael Blackburn, Kathleen Robinson, Bill Baum, Christine Julvezan, and Jim Orme.

(From left) Linda Redman, Karen Kusibab, Evelyn Koerber, James Sparagowski, Loretta Good, Karen McFall, and Alicia Del Toro-Watson were among those recognized for 20 years of service.

Among the 10-year honorees were (from left) Linda Gilliland, Lee Varga, Dorothy McKinnie, Ruth Hopson, Betty Cantrell, Susan Brewington, and Charles Usztics.

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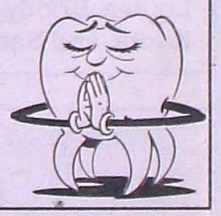

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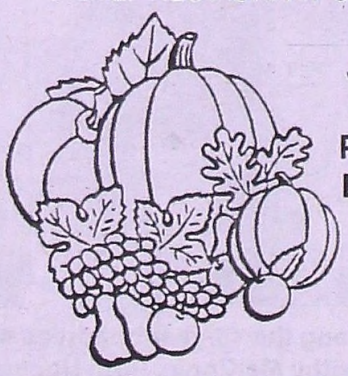

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Pumpkin Festival Schedule of Events

continued from page 1

- Pie Eating (Sun., 1 p.m.)
- Seed Spitting (Sun., 2 p.m.)
- Bubble-gum Blowing (Sun., 3 p.m.)

Musical Entertainment

- "The Mayor's Band" (Fri., 7 p.m.)
- "Trilogy" (Fri., 8 to 11 p.m.)
- "Stare into the Sun" (Sat., 10:45 a.m.)
- "That One Band" (Sat., 11:45 a.m.)
- "Brothers from Another Planet" (Sat., 1 p.m.)
- "Groove: Essential" (Sat., 3 p.m.)
- "MB2" (Sat., 6:30 to 8 p.m.)
- "Channel 6" (Sat., 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.)
- Jazz group (Sun., 11 a.m.)
- "Waco" (Sun., 1 p.m.)
- "Straight Ahead" (Sun., 3 p.m.)
- "Gospel Hour" (Sun., 5 to 6 p.m.)

Other Attractions

- Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast – featuring delicious pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and steaming hot coffee (Romulus Recreation Center; Sat., 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- "Cruisin" Car Show – sponsored by Calvary Baptist Church, Romulus Auto Supply, and Family Hair Shop (Olive between Bibbins and Grant; Sat., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- Craft Sale (Romulus Senior Center; Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sun., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Rollerblade Hockey Tournament – sponsored by Romulus Wesleyan Church (Five Points; Sat., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; call Pastor Steve Adams at 734-941-1511 for information)
- 3-on-3 Basketball – sponsored by pastors Arthur Willis and Steve Adams (near Romaine; Sat. and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- "Step-in-Line" – line dancing (Sat., 2:30 p.m.)
- All-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner (Community United Methodist Church at Olive and Bibbins; Sat., 4 to 7 p.m.)
- Romulus Public Library's Used Book Sale (Olive and Goddard; Sat., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.)
- K-9 Officers, Romulus Police Department (Sat., 10 a.m.)

Information/Demonstration Booths

A number of organizations will be sponsoring booths at the Pumpkin Fest, including the Romulus Police Department's Community and Neighborhood Services Section and the Romulus Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership. Be sure to check 'em out.

* * *

Don't Forget To Say "Thanks"

The success of the Pumpkin Festival is the result of a lot of hard work performed by dedicated people. So while you're out enjoying yourself, why not take the time to say "thanks" to the volunteers who make the fun happen, especially Festival Committee co-chairpersons Maria Lambert, Joanne Whaley, and Laurie Berlinn; secretary Linda Collier; treasurer Debra Hoffman; entertainment coordinator Ellen Craig-Bragg; vendor coordinator Rosalie Berlinn; and their fellow committee members: Julie Albert, Julie Allison, Carole Bales, Herb Buckley, Helen Carroll, Lynn Conway, Diane Hazen, Terry Hermenau, Betsey Krampitz, Reverend William Kren, Alan R. Lambert, John Leacher, Kathy Lindroth, Sarah Lindroth, Cynthia Lyon, Dave McCrory, Angie Morris, Linda Norman, Brian A. Oakley, Rick Perry, Jean Pressler, Robert Pressler, Sharon Raftary, Phil Renke, Denise Simmerman, Hubert Staten, Cliff West, Reverend Arthur Willis, Julie Wojtylko, and Robert Youtsey. ❑

The annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival – set for Friday, September 19, through Sunday, September 21 – celebrates the autumn season's bounty with good, old-fashioned fun.

Community Calendar

- **Women's Bible Study** – The Women's Ministry of New Life Metro Church (20051 Metro Drive, New Boston – Exit 13 on the west side of I-275) invites you to attend a Women's Bible Study program – "When Godly People Do Ungodly Things" – to be offered from 9 to 11 a.m. each Thursday from September 11 through October 23. Instructor Beth Moore will discuss the seduction of God's people by The Deceiver, and remind her listeners that Satan is a "lion on the prowl" for us, his prey. A $15-per-person fee includes the cost of a workbook. For more information, call Becky Still, Women's Director, at the church: 734-753-5710. (Moore also conducts a weekly class called "Breaking Free" each Wednesday; call the church for details.)
- **St. Aloysius Plans Benefit Golf Outing** – St. Aloysius Catholic School's Usher Club will host its first annual golf-outing fund-raiser at Shady Hollow Golf Course on Thursday, September 11. An $85-per-person cost covers golf (4-person scramble; 9 a.m. shotgun start), cart, dinner, prizes. Contact Steve Kertez (734-753-4379), Chuck Shonta (734-941-0503), Steve Weatherholt (734-502-0100), or Gil White (734-941-1214) for more information.
- **Baseball Tryouts** – "Michigan Storm" – a U-10 Boys' Travel Baseball Team for the Wayne/Washtenaw County area – is holding tryouts on Sunday, September 14. For more information, call 734-697-4586.
- **Golf for Kids Benefits Boys & Girls Club** – The Romulus chapter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan is hosting its first annual "Golf for Kids" fund-raiser on Saturday, September 20, at Shady Hollow Golf Course, located at 34777 Smith Road in Romulus. A cost of $65 per person includes golf (2 p.m. shotgun start), cart, refreshments at the turn, food and beverage tickets for the Romulus Pumpkin Festival, and prizes. Deadline for registration is Friday, September 12. For more information, call the Boys & Girls Club office: 734-941-5839.
- **Romulus Church of God Announces Service Times** – Romulus Church of God (located at 8770 South Wayne Road) invites the public to attend their weekly services (Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesdays at 7 p.m.) as well as their children's programs: Kids for Christ (Sundays at 10:30 a.m.) and Kids Praise (Saturdays from 12 to 2 p.m.). For more information, please call 734-729-7243.
- **Women's Chorus Seeks New Members** – County Connection Chorus, a women's *a capella* group affiliated with Sweet Adelines, meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at UAW Local #898 (8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti). Women interested in receiving free vocal lessons are encouraged at attend. The chorus specializes in four-part barbershop harmony with a repertoire that includes Broadway classics, pop, gospel, and barbershop standards. For further information, visit www.sweetadelines.org or call 734-480-8843.
- **Local Businesses Host Weekly "Cruise Night" Events** – Come out for old-fashioned "Cruise Night" fun throughout the summer outside Walter's Bar/Romulus Lanes (located at 37452 Huron River Drive) each Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m. (co-sponsored by Romulus Auto Supply), and at Blue Sky Ice Cream and Hamburgers (15155 Huron River Drive) every Thursday starting at 5 p.m. All are welcome.
- **Romulus Democratic Club** – The Romulus Democratic Club meets at the UAW Hall/Local #174 (29841 Van Born Road) on the third Thursday of every month (next meeting: September 18) at 7 p.m. For more information, call (734-941-3513) or page (734-360-2232) Jack H. Trumble, Club President.
- **Crafters Sought** – The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking crafters for its fifth annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Show, to be held in the Belleville High School cafeteria on Saturday, October 25, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The show is open to all artists and craftsmen, and has, in the past, featured presentations of a wide variety of items for sale, including jewelry, floral and fabric creations, woodworking, country crafts, handmade toys, ceramics, pottery, and more. Booth spaces begin at $20, and are available on a first-come/first-served basis. Applications may be picked up at the chamber's office, located at 248 Main Street, or requested by telephone (734-697-7151), facsimile (734-697-1415), or e-mail (www.bellevillech.org). Note: Net proceeds from the event will aid in the chamber's efforts to pay off its mortgage on the newly purchased chamber building.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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RHS Wins Third Straight Social Studies Olympiad "Crown"

Romulus High School social-studies teacher/Olympiad coach Kellie Knight (center) celebrates the school's third straight state championship in the Social Studies Olympiad's marathon event with students Jeremiah Yeager Hudson (left) and Tim Docherty.

For the third straight year, Romulus High School has been awarded first place in the marathon event of the annual Michigan Social Studies Olympiad. Teacher Kellie Knight was proud of her students' work, and congratulated them on their efforts and on the continued statewide recognition that they have brought to the Romulus Community Schools.

The High School's most recent state championship project featured the development of elementary-level lesson books. Each RHS student had to prepare a booklet that helped early elementary-age students study reading, writing, and/or mathematics. Knight then sent her students to Romulus Elementary School to share their creations with the first- and second-graders there.

"The response from the elementary students was really impressive," Knight explained. "They liked the text, art work, and contemporary nature of the lessons presented by the High School students."

Knight also noted how carefully her students had developed their lessons, going from an initial outline to the finished product.

Romulus High School won the 2001 Social Studies Olympiad with a citizenship/voting project that included registering all students to vote in school elections via e-mail. Last year, the school won with a project on patriotic service-learning that included writing to Romulus residents serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. ❑

Hollis, Hoffman to Lead Golf Team

Jeremy Hollis (right), currently in his second season as the number-one player on Romulus High School's golf team, is expected to lead the Romulus High School golf team along with fellow golfer Jeff Hoffman.

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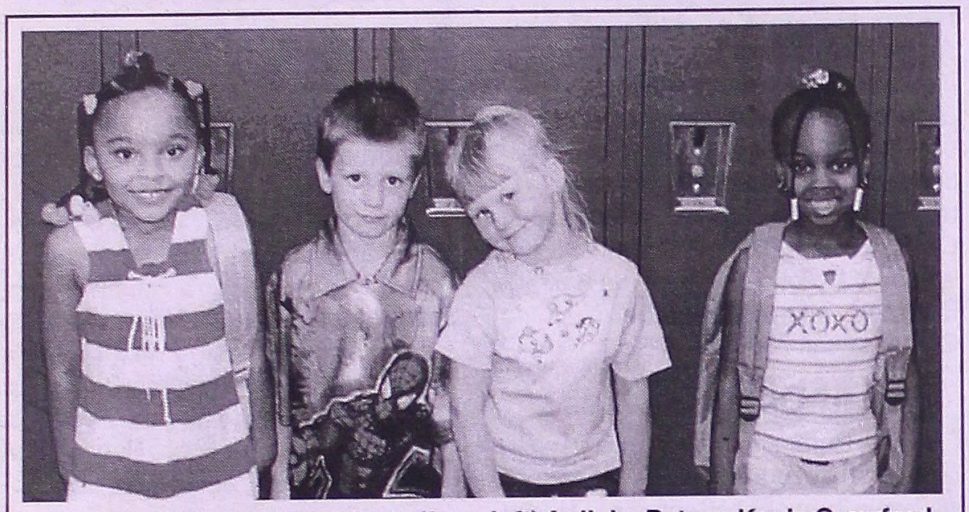
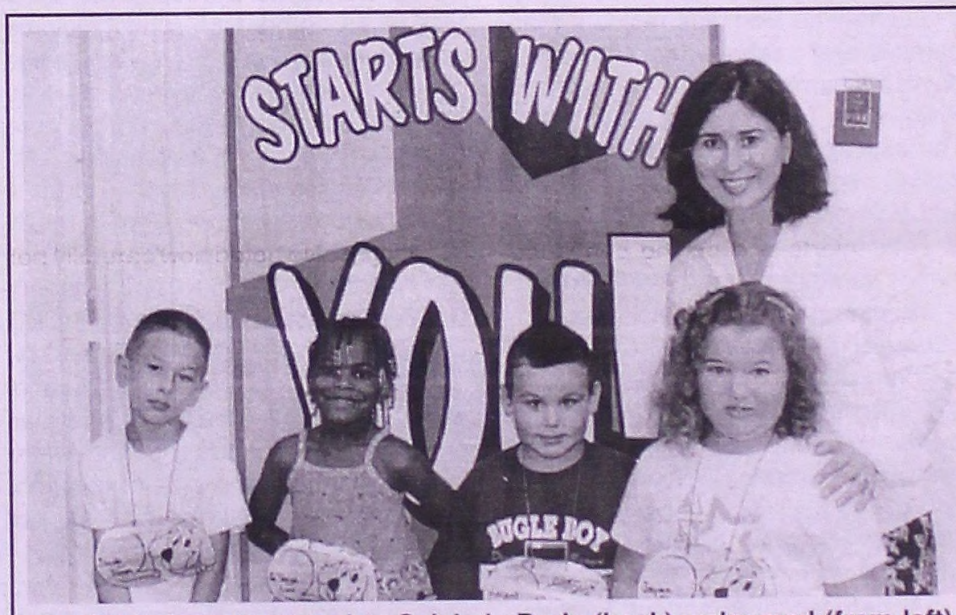
First Day of School



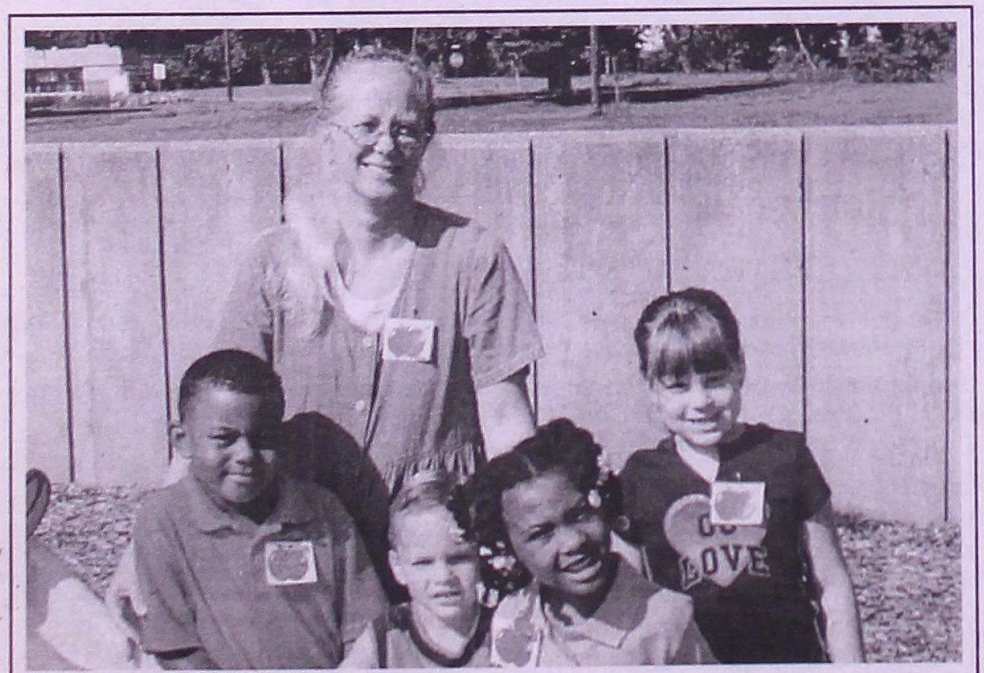
Romulus Elementary students (from left) Aulisha Peters, Kevin Crawford, Kaly Brown, and Takiya Channey got used to their new lockers on their first day of kindergarten.

Dr. Cecilia Albertsberg-Leppen (right) – a Southgate chiropractor, Romulus High School graduate, and Romulus resident – brought her smiling daughter Jennifer to Halecreek Elementary for her first day of kindergarten.

Merriman principal Shellie Moore (left) was on hand to greet first-graders Ashleigh Blair, Phantaycia Martin, Anthony Taylor, and Zachary Linne on their return to school.



Barth kindergarten teacher Sylvia LaBoda (back) welcomed (from left) Jacob Jones, Ta'Sheya Cline, Vincent Ciccarelli, and Jayme Hopkins to her class on opening day.



Kindergarten teacher Mo Brennan (back) took her students – including (from left) Carl Jones, Layth Douglas, India Foster, and Chelsi Hillard – out to enjoy the playground equipment on their first day at Cory Elementary.

Wick Elementary principal Debbie Juriga (back) welcomed (from left) Talia Woody, Antoinette Trussel, Ryan Lamoureau, and Joseph Drew to their first day of kindergarten.

Booker Celebrates 100 Years

Bill Smith (left) and Earl Cornett – former directors of the Romulus Adult Education program – helped long-time resident Margarett Booker celebrate her 100th birthday.

By Earl Cornett

Long-time Romulus resident Margarett Booker celebrated her 100th birthday at her former residence, Whispering Willows, on Tuesday, August 26, 2003. The festive party, co-hosted by Whispering Willows president Frances Bryner and Booker's friend, Mary Lowrance, was attended by a host of neighbors and friends as well as Mayor Alan Lambert.

Booker was born in Rockland, Tennessee, on August 26, 1903, and moved to Romulus from Indianapolis, Indiana, near the end of World War II. After living for many years on Delano Street, she moved to Whispering Willows Cooperative in 1994. In April, she moved to Willow Creek Adult Assisted Living in Belleville.

A fiercely independent woman, Booker credits the rearing of her grandmother, a former slave, for her longevity.

"My grandmother raised me to treat others with kindness, to not worry about things you can't control, and to have faith in the lord," she said.

Until her recent move to Willow Creek, she lived alone and did all her own cooking and housework.

One of Booker's proudest moments was receiving her high school diploma from Romulus Adult Education at age 75. She started taking night classes while still doing domestic and child-care work, serving as an outstanding role model for younger students.

"Margarett had no high school credits when she started at Adult Education," said former program director Bill Smith. "Despite being in her 70s and still working, she had nearly perfect attendance and took great pride in her school work. When she graduated, she was given the Courageous Student Award for her commitment and determination. She continued to take classes for her own enrichment for years afterward.

"Our motto was 'It's never too late,' and her example was living proof," Smith concluded.

Despite using a wheelchair and having a hearing impairment, Booker is in good health and is proud that she takes no prescription medicine.

Friends are encouraged to visit her at Willow Creek, located on the I-94 South Service Drive between Haggerty and Belleville roads.

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Donors of $500 or more will be recognized on a memorial plaque.

Donors of $25 or more will be recognized in a "book of friends."

Recreation News

Our thanks to Herbert Buckley, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Kristin Irwin, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Youth Dance Classes

The Romulus Recreation Department's dance program for boys and girls will begin the week of September 15 and continue, in 8-week sessions, through May 21. Classes will be held according to the following schedule:

Mondays (at Romulus High School)

- pre-ballet (ages 3 to 5): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- pre-ballet (ages 3 to 5): 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- ballet (ages 6 to 13): 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- dance team (members only): 6:45 to 8 p.m.
- solo lessons (6-week sessions): 8 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesdays (at the Rec Center)

- pre-tap (ages 3 to 5): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- pre-tap (ages 3 to 5): 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- hop hop & tap (ages 6 to 13): 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- dance team (members only): 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Thursdays (at Romulus High School)

- pre-hip hop (ages 3 to 5): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- pre-hip hop (ages 3 to 5): 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- hip hop & ballet (ages 6 to 13): 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Cost per 8-week session is $35 for 30-minute classes, $50 for 45-minute classes, $65 for 90-minute classes, and $75 for dance team classes. The 6-week solo lessons are $50 each. Registration deadline is Friday, September 12.

Youth Gymnastics

The fall session of the Tumblebunnies gymnastics program for boys and girls ages 3 and up will be held at the Recreation Center each Monday from September 15 to October 27 according to the following schedule:

- ages 3 to 4: 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- ages 5 to 7: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ages 8 and up: 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Cost is $60 per session. Registration deadline is Friday, September 12.

After-school Soccer

Students in grades 3 through 6 are invited to sign up for the Recreation Department's after-school soccer program, which will be held at all 6 elementary schools (Barth, Cory, Halecreek, Merriman, Romulus, and Wick) until 5 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday from September 16 through November 6.

A cost of $30 per child includes a T-shirt; youngsters who have a shirt from last year pay only $25. *No transportation will be provided.* Registration deadline is Friday, September 12.

Safety/Self-defense

Gain confidence, self-discipline, and coordination while learning about physical fitness, safety awareness, and respect for others through participation in a Safety Awareness/Self-defense class, which will be held at the Recreation Center each Tuesday and Friday from October 14 through November 21 according to the following schedule:

- beginner: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- advanced: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Cost per session is $40 for one person, $75 for two immediate family members, or $110 for three immediate family members. Deadline for registration is Monday, October 13.

Women's Self-defense

Women ages teen to adult are invited to take the Recreation Department's self-defense class, where they will learn simple self-defense techniques designed for any level of physical ability and applicable to everyday situations. The class will meet at the Recreation Center from 7 to 8:15 p.m. each Tuesday from September 9 through October 28. Participants should wear sweat pants, a comfortable shirt, and tennis shoes.

Cost is $40 per person. Deadline for registration is Monday, September 8.

Pilates for All Ages

Session I of the Recreation Department's Pilates class will begin the week of September 16 and continue through November 6. Students of all ages (minors *must* be accompanied by an adult) can choose among the following classes (all held at Barth Elementary):

- Tuesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, 8 to 9 p.m.
- Thursday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, 8 to 9 p.m.

Cost is $50 for 1 class per week, $90 for 2, or $125 for 3. Deadline for registration is Monday, September 15. ❑

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Welcome Back!

Joel R. Carr (second from left), superintendent, was joined by curriculum director Tom Dolan (center), Cory principal Phyllis Adkins (right), and football coaches Avery Taylor (left) and Wade Cook at the Romulus Community Schools' annual Welcome Back Breakfast.

Also at the breakfast were Board trustees Ken Mientkiewicz (back, left) and Celeste Roscoe (back, center), as well as Middle School principal Mel Kimbrough (back, right), High School assistant principals Don Foley and Doug Hoffman (center and right, respectively), and Nate Oats.

Still other attendees included: (from left) front – Gerilyn Kline, Robin Fraser, and Patty McEvely; back – Lori Russell, Stephanie Wiersma, Sarah Scott, Lori Siegenthaler, Amanda Napolitano, and Joyce Evans ...

... (from left) front – Lynn Webb, Linda Youtsey, Romulus Middle School assistant principal Chris Powers, Evelyn Hamlin, and Kathleen Hall; back – Carol Pastrick, Betty Santo, Antoinette Soave, and Sharon Grandell ...

... (from left) front – Reverend Rita Talley, athletic director Jesse Meriweather, and Janice Barden; back – Matt McGrane, Donald Mathaney, Bill Garland, and director of maintenance and operations Don Morris ...

... and (from left) front – Regan Wisely, Marjie McAnally, Mary Beth Coffey, Darrlyn Harrison, and Debra Brybaker; back – Toby Parker, Sarah Rollins, and Laurie Painter.

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call the Center's new telephone number: 734-955-4120.)

Sign Up for the Senior Newsletter

The Romulus Senior Center is currently updating its mailing list for the monthly *Communicator* newsletter. To continue receiving the free newsletter (if you're already a subscriber), or to begin receiving it for the first time, just call the Center.

Senior Crafters Wanted

The Romulus Senior Center is looking for senior citizens who would like to take part in the Center's craft show during the annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival, set for September 19–21. Although there is no charge for a table, space is limited, so be sure to register right away!

Ceramics Resumes

Get ready to make lots of lovely holiday gifts when ceramic classes resume on September 8. The fee for the daytime class, which meets each Monday from 1 to 3 p.m., is just $1 per class. (An additional fee – one half of the cost of your greenware – is charged for firing.) Students provide their own supplies.

For more information, contact the Center.

Yoga Class

The Romulus Senior Center has scheduled six classes of "Hatha Yoga" to be held each Monday at 10 a.m. beginning on September 8. The program – which will focus on flexibility, relaxation, gentle movements, and breathing – is open to everyone. There are no physical restrictions, since each person's program is geared toward his/her individual abilities. Just sign up, then show up wearing comfortable clothing!

Cost per each one-hour class is $7 (payable at registration). Preregistration is required.

Walk to Help Save Lives

The American Cancer Society's annual "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk is a fun way to raise money for vital research, education, patient support, and more. To join the "Romulus Pride" for this event – which will be held at Belle Isle on Saturday, October 11, beginning with an 8:30 a.m. registration – just sign up at the Senior Center.

Shopping

For a transportation fee of just $1.50, local senior citizens can ride the Senior Center's van to shop at Meijer/Southland (Monday, September 8), Wal-Mart/Farmer Jack (Monday, September 15), and/or Kmart (Monday, September 22). All departure times are 9:30 a.m. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman.

- ***Windsor Racetrack Slots*** (September 16; $5);
- ***Houghton Lake Cruise*** (September 27; $56);
- ***Little River*** (October 1–2; $105);
- ***Southwestern Tour*** (November 1–17; $999).

Note: Deposits – due at the time of sign-up – reserve your seat. For day trips, full payment is due at least two weeks before departure. For overnight trips, full payment is due a minimum of 30 days before departure.

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, September 15, beginning at 10 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable ($5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: Haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointment, as the Center does not have the necessary facilities.

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens – has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16, at the Center.

As always, both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-955-4120) are welcome.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens. They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 1 p.m.),
- Club #1 (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Senior Social Club (second Tuesday of each month, 2 p.m.)
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.). ❑

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____
_____
_____
Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):
_____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):
_____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Obituaries

Helen Byerley

Helen Byerley of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, August 19, 2003, at the age of 84.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, on Monday, March 3, 1919, Helen came to Romulus from Kirksey, Kentucky. The former resident of the Romulus Tower senior-citizen apartment building was a "Rosie the Rivetor" during World War II, and enjoyed both sewing and embroidery.

Helen is survived by 4 sons, Darryl Beard (Detroit), Kenneth (Theresa) Beard (Romulus), George (Charleen) Beard (Southgate, MI), and Lyle Beard (Southgate); 3 daughters, Ms. Amelia Aldred (Detroit), Mrs. Sandra Weaber (Lincoln Park, MI), and Mrs. Santiago (Janet) Esparza (Detroit); a stepdaughter, Mrs. Linda Zajac (Farmington Hills, MI); 23 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in death were her husband, Walter Byerley (March 7, 2000); a stepson, Albert Ray Byerley (December 2002), and 3 brothers.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, August 20, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Robert White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Interment was at Murray Memorial Garden (Murray, KY).

Deborah J. Schmidt

Deborah J. Schmidt of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Friday, August 29, 2003, at the age of 51.

Deborah – a resident provider for New Life Services – was born in Rochester, New York, on Friday, February 22, 1952. She was active in both the Girl Scouts of America and the Goodfellows organizations, and enjoyed traveling, camping, bowling, shopping, and spending time with her grandchildren.

Surviving Deborah are her husband, Donald C. Schmidt; a daughter, Tracy (Scott) Carter (Ypsilanti, MI); a son, Jason (Sheryl) Schmidt (Allen Park, MI); a brother, James W. (Judy) Cumming (Rochester); 2 grandchildren, Daniel and Madison; a mother-in-law, Elizabeth "Bette" Schmidt (Rochester); 3 nephews, and 1 niece.

She was predeceased by her parents, William C. and Virginia C. (Blakeslee) Cumming.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, September 3, at Crane Funeral Home, with Pastor Robert J. White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Interment was at Hillside Cemetery (Belleville).

Dolores Touzeau

Dolores Touzeau of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, August 23, 2003, at the age of 84.

Surviving Dolores are 2 daughters, Sharon Garnatz and Janis (Anthony) Langdon; 4 grandchildren, Cindy (Mark) Zieminski, Michael Garnatz, Chad (Tiffany) Langdon, and Wade (Nicole) Langdon; and 1 great-grandchild, Nathan Zieminski.

Her husband, Donald Touzeau, was among those who preceded her in death.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Voran Funeral Home – Taylor Chapel (Taylor, MI). Interment was at Glen Eden Memorial Park Cemetery (Livonia, MI). ❑

~ Crane ~
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The Stork Arrived

Mackenzie Renae Matheny

Brett and Michelle Matheny of Romulus are proud to announce the birth of their new daughter, Mackenzie Renae Matheny.

Mackenzie was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn) at 2:09 p.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2003, weighing 6 lbs., 9 oz., and measuring 19".

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grandparents, David and Dorothy Matheny of Romulus, and her maternal grandparents, Robert and Linda Demyan of New Boston. ❑

Mackenzie Renae Matheny

Wedding Bells

Ryan and Jaime

Ryan Evans and Jaime Doherty

Richard and Sandy Doherty of Canton are proud to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Jaime Doherty, to Ryan Evans, the son of Richard and Joyce Evans of Romulus.

The couple – who have been engaged since April 12, 2003 – plan to exchange their wedding vows in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Tuesday, October 21, 2003.

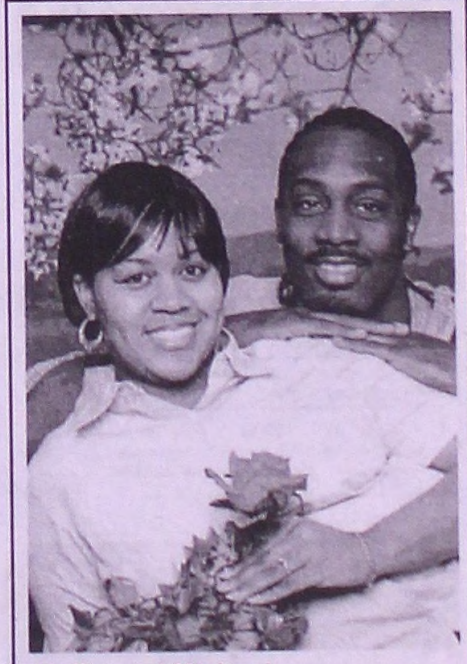
Michael Underwood and Kellie Massey

Clarence and Mitzi Massey of Romulus are proud to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Kellie Danielle Massey, to Michael Louis Underwood, the son of Chester Underwood of Detroit and Harold and Jacqueline Peagler of Romulus.

The couple – engaged since April 13, 2003 – will exchange their wedding vows at Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ (Inkster) on Saturday, September 13, 2003.

Standing up with Michael will be groomsmen Melvin Underwood, Jr., DeShawn Underwood, Clayton Russell, Tyrone Lipford, Rudolph Morgan, Sterling Powell, Jr., Robert Powell, Frank Williams, Jr., William Williams, and Donald Myles, Jr.

Attending Kellie will be bridesmaids LaTanya Massey, Crystal Massey, Shannita Underwood, Dawn Rucker, Latosha Stovall, Tiffany Faison, Gerranda Brooks, Charte Williams, Leshonté Mills, and Amber Williams.



Kellie and Michael

A reception at Roma Banquet Facility (Garden City) will immediately follow the ceremony. ❑

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